Appl. No. 10/053,247 312 Amendment Dated: September 8, 2005

REMARKS

This Amendment is being submitted to maintain claims 31-32 in the present application. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw her cancellation of these claims as set forth in the Notice of Allowance dated November 3, 2004.

In the Office action dated November 3, 2004, the Examiner indicated that claims 1-7 and 9-41 were pending. Particularly, the Examiner indicated that "Applicant's election of Species A [was] directed to claims 1-7, 9-19, 31-32 & 35-43." Paragraph 1, page 2 (emphasis added). In Applicant's Amendment dated March 3, 2005, Applicant amended claims 31 and 32 to depend from allowable claims 2 and 11, respectively, which had been written in independent form. In the Notice of Allowance dated June 8, 2005, the Examiner inexplicably cancelled claims 20-34, even though claims 31 and 32 depended from claims 2 and 11, which the Examiner deemed allowable. Again, the Examiner previously indicated that claims 31-32 were pending.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that claims 31 and 32 be maintained in the present application, and be permitted to proceed to issuance. The Examiner is strongly encouraged to contact the undersigned if any issues related to this Amendment persist.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory J. Hartwig Reg. No. 46,761

Docket No. 015445-9001

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